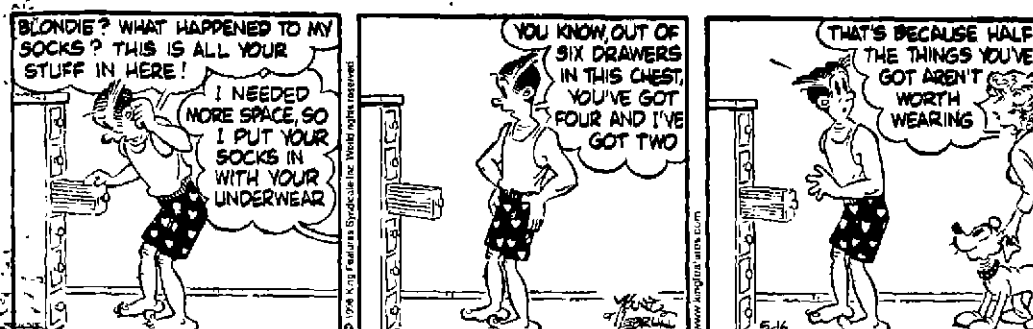


BLONDIE



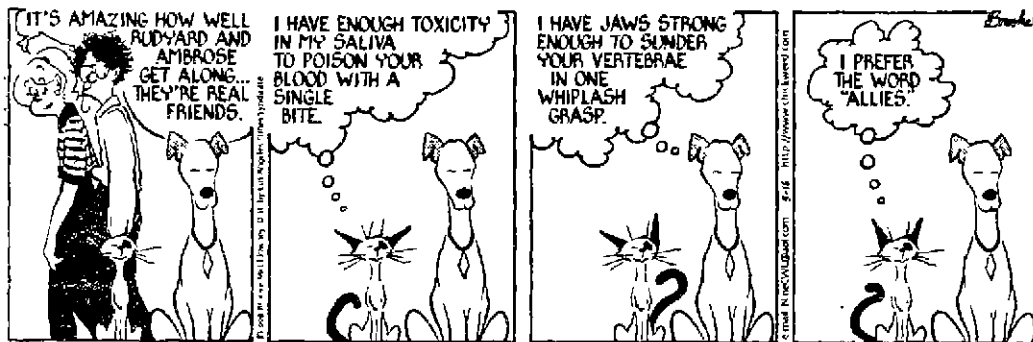
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



ANDY CAPP



ROSE IS ROSE



HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



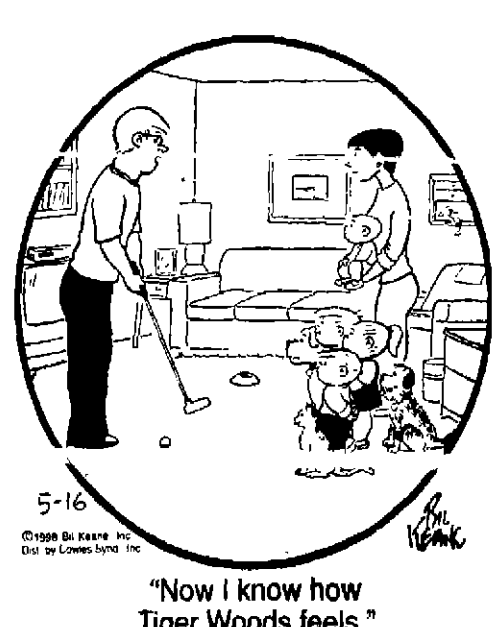
DILBERT



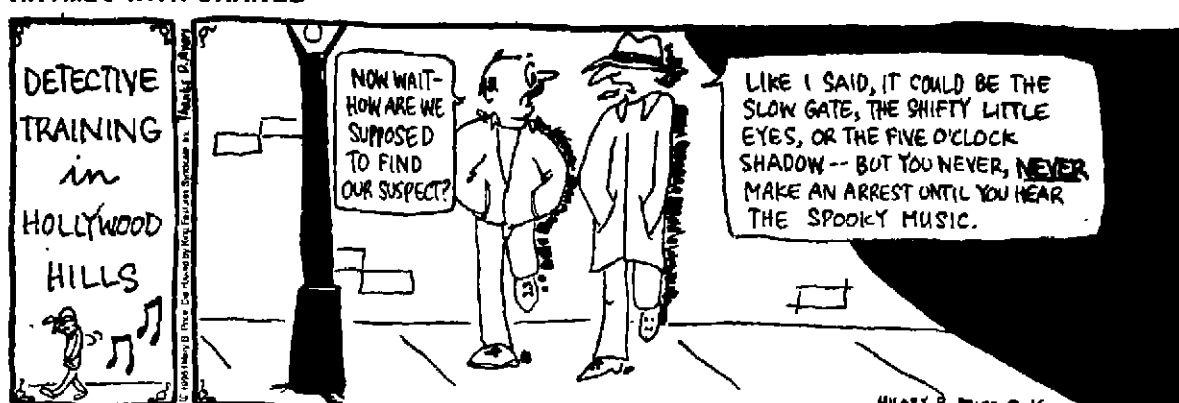
DENNIS THE MENACE



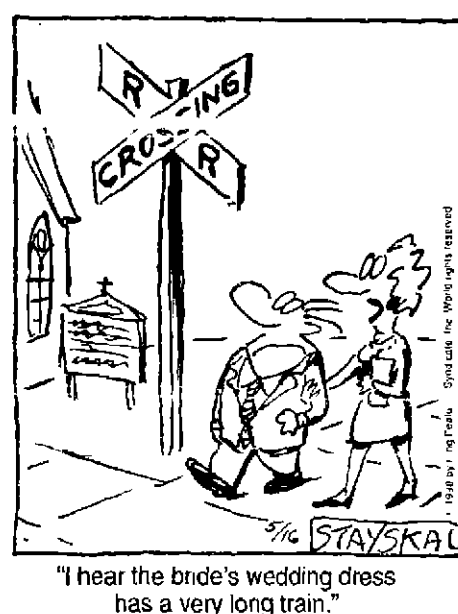
FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



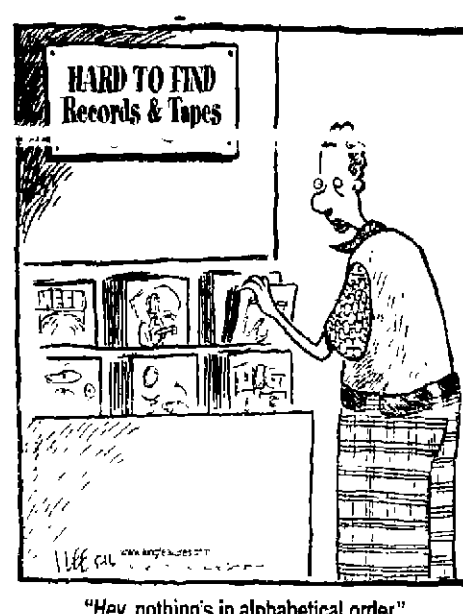
RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Actor Pierce Brosnan is 45. Actress Daphne Guinness is 43. Soviet gymnast Olga Korbut is 43. Actress Mare Winningham is 39. Singer Janet Jackson is 32. Rhythm-and-blues singer Ralph Tresvant (New Edition) is 30. Actress Tracey Gold is 29. Tennis player Gabriela Sabatini is 28. Country singer Rick Trevino is 27. Actor David Boreanaz ("Buffy the Vampire Slayer") is 27. Actress Tori Spelling is 25.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

PAR SCORE 145-155 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT: 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merrim-Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 5-18-98 © 1998 United Feature Syndicate Inc.

N	F	S	E	O	O	T	Triple Word Score
T	P	M	R	E	U	E	RACK 1
H	N	T	T	U	U	R	RACK 2
P	A	U	U	M	M	W	RACK 3
							RACK 4

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

Things we open

A H E B Y V T O O L I G D B Y
W T R P S W O D N I W M S K I
F M D M E E T I N G S H B Y W
U S I Q O S S R E T T E L M K
I F D N B Z E U X U N S W U S
O O S S D S L G O N U T L J H
F D C K E S T M A H O E A Y W
V T S Y O R T R C K C K Q P N
L K E I H O O F A E C R C B Z
Y W V U S O B T N E A A R Q P
N M L J I D H F S E H M P D C

Friday's unlisted clue: POPCORN

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Saturday's unlisted clue: OPENINGS IN A WALL

Accounts	Doors	Letters	Mouths
Books	Eyes	Markets	Packages
Bottles	Hearts	Meetings	Stores
Cans	Houses	Minds	

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3/16

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Sunday, May 17, 1998

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) A surge of self-confidence comes after the completion of some tasks. The satisfaction of a job well done shows in your attitude.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Dancing, art or music probably is particularly appealing to you. New friends join your social circle.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) You could purchase something beautiful for the house. A poetic mood has you creating sonnets or corresponding with those dear to you.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) You're on the go. Your social life is rewarding, and you're feeling creative and productive.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Implement those changes you've been contemplating at home. Then go out somewhere special with a loved one.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Romance is accented, and in general it's an exciting time. Impromptu get-togethers are likely. Investigate new work possibilities.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Everything runs according to your schedule in business. In the evening, romance and partnerships are accented.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Whether single or married, you find it the right time to accept togetherness. Love at first sight is possible.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) It's a good day for presenting new ideas to higher-ups and for overall career progress. Your enhanced charisma improves your effectiveness.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Everything falls into place regarding travel and romance. Loved ones are busy making happy plans.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) You know just whom to contact to put together the missing pieces of an upcoming business move.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) It is an exciting time for you socially and romantically. After a fulfilling day, you pause for some reflection.

ACES ON BRIDGE

By Bobby Wolff

South's play gave West the information he needed to defeat today's game. Unfortunately, West responded to the challenge with a neutral response instead of decisive action. Cover the East and South cards and see whether you can do better. West led his fourth-best heart, dummy played low, and East's 10 went to South's jack. At trick two, South fired a heart right back, and West took his king. What now? At the table, West switched to a lazy spade king, a lead that would give South nothing new on a sure way have. South gratefully took dummy's ace and claimed his contract, displaying five diamond winners to go with one spade and three hearts. Would you have found the winning defense? It's not easy, especially if you don't decipher South's intentions. The first question West must ask is "Why is South giving me my heart trick?" Obviously, South has no fear of hearts, and almost as obvious, he must have a huge fit in diamonds. If South can win five diamonds and three hearts, the spade ace will be his ninth winner. So the only chance for West is to switch to clubs. However, switching to a low club won't do. East will win and return the suit, but South will be left with a stopper. The only route to winning four club tricks is for West to cash his club ace at trick three and continue small to East's king. Now West's J-9 of clubs sits over South's 10-8, and the game goes one down.

05-16-A

NORTH
♠ A 9 4 2
♥ Q 7
♦ K J 10 6 3
♣ Q 4

WEST
♠ K Q 10
♥ K 8 5 3 2
♦ 5
♣ A J 9 2

EAST
♠ 7 6 5 3
♥ 10 4
♦ 9 8 4 2
♣ K 7 5

SOUTH
♠ J 2
♥ A J 9 6
♦ A Q 7
♣ 10 8 6 3

Vulnerable. Both

Dealer. West

The bidding:

West	North	East	South
1 ♥	Dbl	Pass	3 NT
Pass	Pass	Pass	

Opening lead. Heart trey

N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0404

ACROSS

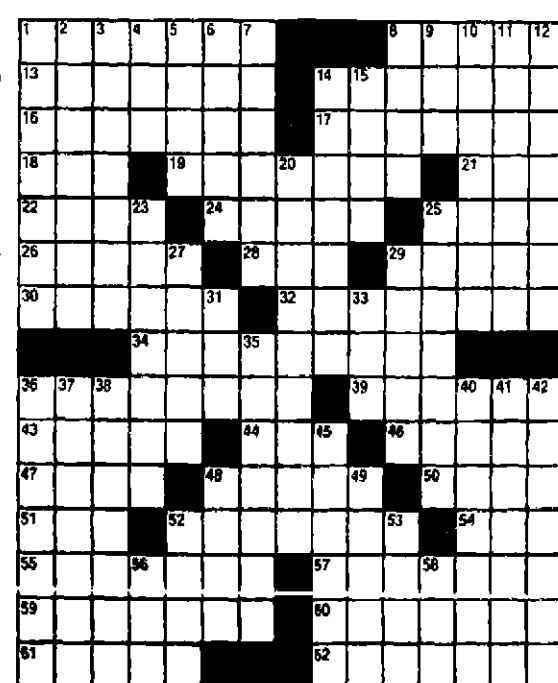
- 1 Policeman, in slang
- 8 Hair style
- 13 Beastly
- 14 Chekhov play, with "The"
- 16 Acts of kindness
- 17 Concern for some losers
- 18 Underestimate, e.g.
- 19 C.P.A.'s request
- 21 Literary monogram
- 22 Eye opening, maybe
- 24 Binges
- 25 Scapegoat
- 26 Looks at
- 28 Bit of reverse English?
- 29 Gay city
- 30 Not alfresco
- 32 Line position
- 34 Donned
- 36 Interested party
- 39 Devious ones
- 43 Deal prerequisites
- 44 Hors d'oeuvre item
- 46 Oedipus, in the end
- 47 Work area
- 48 Kind of discussion
- 50 Unfeigned
- 51 More, to Mehta
- 52 Check
- 54 Old Ford model
- 56 Privately, and to be kept private
- 57 Detail
- 59 Some discriminators
- 60 Carpenter, at times
- 61 The socially lost
- 62 Make ready for use

DOWN

- 1 Son of Mary Stuart
- 2 College that pioneered in coeducation
- 3 Slapdash
- 4 Pres. advisory group
- 5 Year Trajan was born
- 6 Keep from happening
- 7 Big name in oil
- 8 Emollient
- 9 Back
- 10 Encourage
- 11 Reflect brilliantly
- 12 Came down pretty hard
- 14 Short dog, for short
- 18 Surrogate listener
- 20 Classic clue

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

ALIBABA ARABIC
CARRIAGE WINONA
ONEARMEDBANDITS
WIDESARGASSOSEA
ADHERERS
AGARAGAR
CAROLINAMUDCATS
ASSORTER
KINGSTON
SMALLAPPLIANCES
TAKEINTOACCOUNT
AGENCY EYEETOEYE
REDSEA STANDON



Puzzle by Rich Norris

- | | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 23 Gliding ballroom dance | 40 Diver's need | 49 "Whole — Love" (1970 hit) |
| 25 Be on deck | 41 Palookas | 52 Swear |
| 27 Cadenzas, e.g. | 42 Grounds-keeping apparatuses | 53 "Laughable Lyrics" writer |
| 29 Call | 43 Fade away | 54 Clear (of) |
| 31 Lip | 44 Announce | 55 Time div |

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone: 1-900-420-5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years: 1-888-7-ACROSS.